IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: R. ROMPPANEN

Serial No.: Not assigned

Filed: February 26, 2002

For: MANAGEMENT OF AN OVERLOAD SITUATION IN A

TELECOMMUNICATION SYSTEM

Group: Not assigned

Examiner: Not assigned

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

February 26, 2002

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please insert before the first line of the specification the following:

This application is a continuation of PCT application No. PCT/FI00/00713, filed

August 22, 2000, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference. --

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

- 3. (Amended) Method as defined in claim 2, characterized in that the inhibition of the subscriber's call attempt in the second network element (AN) is cancelled if the overload situation in the signalling channel and/or first network element (LE) is cleared.
- 4. (Amended) Method as defined in claim 3, wherein the inhibition of the subscriber's call attempt in the second network element (AN) is cancelled even if the period of time prescribed by the first network element (LE) has not yet elapsed.
- 5. (Amended) Method as defined in claim 4, wherein a priority class analysis regarding the subscriber is performed in the first network element (LE); and the subscriber's call attempts are inhibited in the second network element (AN) if the result of the priority class analysis permits it.
- 6. (Amended) Method as defined in claim 5, wherein in the case of a terminating call,

the inhibition of the subscriber's call attempt in the second network element (AN) is cancelled; and

the call is set up in the normal manner.

7. (Amended) Method as defined in claim 6, wherein the interface (V5) is a V5.2 interface.

- 9. (Amended) System as defined in claim 8, wherein the system comprises means (4) for canceling the inhibition of the subscriber's call attempt in the second network element (AN).
- 10. (Amended) System as defined in claim 9, wherein the system comprises means (5) for performing a priority class analysis regarding the subscriber.
 - 11. System as defined in claim 10, wherein the interface (V5) is a V5.2 interface.
- 12. (Amended) System as defined in claim 11, wherein the telecommunication system is a telephone exchange system.
- 13. (Amended) System as defined in claim 12, wherein the first network element (LE) is a telephone exchange.

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please add the attached Abstract to the invention.

REMARKS

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current Amendment. The attached page is captioned "<u>Version with markings to show</u> <u>changes made</u>".

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (1154.41166X00).

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

- 3. (Amended) Method as defined in claim 1-or 2, characterized in that the inhibition of the subscriber's call attempt in the second network element (AN) is cancelled if the overload situation in the signalling channel and/or first network element (LE) is cleared.
- 4. (Amended) Method as defined in any one of the preceding claims 1-3 claim 3, characterized in that wherein the inhibition of the subscriber's call attempt in the second network element (AN) is cancelled even if the period of time prescribed by the first network element (LE) has not yet elapsed.
- 5. (Amended) Method as defined in any one of the preceding claims 1-4, eharacterized in that claim 4, wherein a priority class analysis regarding the subscriber is performed in the first network element (LE); and

the subscriber's call attempts are inhibited in the second network element (AN) if the result of the priority class analysis permits it.

6. (Amended) Method as defined in any one of the preceding claims 1-5, characterized in that, claim 5, wherein in the case of a terminating call,

the inhibition of the subscriber's call attempt in the second network element (AN) is cancelled; and

the call is set up in the normal manner.

- 7. (Amended) Method as defined in any one of the preceding claims 1-6, eharacterized in that claim 6, wherein the interface (V5) is a V5.2 interface.
- 9. (Amended) System as defined in claim 8, characterized in that wherein the system comprises means (4) for canceling the inhibition of the subscriber's call attempt in the second network element (AN).
- 10. (Amended) System as defined in claim 8 or 9, characterized in that wherein the system comprises means (5) for performing a priority class analysis regarding the subscriber.
- 11. System as defined in any one of the preceding claims 8-10, characterized in that claim 10, wherein the interface (V5) is a V5.2 interface.
- 12. (Amended) System as defined in any one of the preceding claims 8-11, eharacterized in that claim 11, wherein the telecommunication system is a telephone exchange system.
- 13. (Amended) System as defined in any one of the preceding claims 8-12, characterized in that claim 12, wherein the first network element (LE) is a telephone exchange.